

	S	s	F	W
LOONS				
___ Common Loon	C	V	C	R
___ Red-throated Loon	V	-	-	-
GREBES				
___ Horned Grebe	C	-	U	-
___ Eared Grebe	V	-	-	-
___ Pied-billed Grebe (N)	C	U	C	U
PELICANS & CORMORANTS				
___ American White Pelican	X	-	-	-
___ Double-crested Cormorant	U	-	U	-
SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS & MERGANSERS				
___ Mute Swan (N)	U	R	C	U
___ Tundra Swan	-	-	V	-
___ Canada Goose (N)	A	C	C	U
___ Snow Goose	-	-	V	-
___ Mallard (N)	A	A	A	C
___ American Black Duck	U	-	U	-
___ Northern Pintail	R	-	R	-
___ Gadwall	U	-	U	-
___ American Widgeon	C	-	C	-
___ Northern Shoveler	C	-	U	-
___ Blue-winged Teal (N)	A	C	A	R
___ Green-winged Teal	U	-	U	-
___ Wood Duck (N)	A	C	A	R
___ Redhead	C	-	A	U
___ Canvasback	R	-	C	U
___ Ring-necked Duck	A	-	A	R
___ Lesser Scaup	A	-	A	C
___ Common Goldeneye	C	-	A	U
___ Bufflehead	A	-	A	U
___ Oldsquaw	V	-	-	-
___ Ruddy Duck	C	-	C	R
___ Hooded Merganser (N)	C	R	U	U
___ Red-breasted Merganser	C	R	C	-
___ Common Merganser (N)	C	-	U	U
VULTURES				
___ Turkey Vulture (N)	A	C	C	-
HAWKS, EAGLES & FALCONS				
___ Northern Goshawk	V	-	-	V
___ Cooper’s Hawk (N)	U	C	U	U
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk (N)	U	R	U	U
___ Northern Harrier	R	R	C	-
___ Rough-legged Hawk	R	-	U	U
___ Red-tailed Hawk (N)	A	A	A	C
___ Broad-winged Hawk (N)	U	R	R	-
___ Red-shouldered Hawk (N)	U	U	R	-
___ Bald Eagle	R	-	R	R
___ Osprey (N)	U	U	U	-
___ Peregrine Falcon	V	-	-	-
___ Merlin	V	-	-	-
___ American Kestrel (N)	A	A	A	C

	S	s	F	W
QUAILS & PHEASANTS				
___ Wild Turkey (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Northern Bobwhite (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Ring-necked Pheasant (N)	C	C	C	C
HERONS & EGRETS				
___ Great Egret	R	-	R	-
___ Cattle Egret	V	-	-	-
___ Great Blue Heron (N)	A	A	A	A
___ Little Blue Heron	-	-	V	-
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	V	-	-
___ American Bittern	V	V	H	-
___ Least Bittern	-	V	-	-
___ Green Heron (N)	U	C	C	-
CRANES, RAILS, & COOTS				
___ Sandhill Crane (N)	R	R	R	-
___ Virginia Rail	R	-	-	-
___ Black Rail	V	-	-	-
___ Sora (N)	U	U	-	-
___ Common Moorhen	-	-	-	-
___ American Coot	A	-	A	U
PLOVERS				
___ Killdeer (N)	A	A	A	-
___ Lesser Golden-Plover	-	-	R	-
SANDPIPERS				
___ American Avocet	X	-	-	-
___ Greater Yellowlegs	U	-	U	-
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	U	-	U	-
___ Solitary Sandpiper	U	-	U	-
___ Upland Sandpiper	-	-	-	-
___ Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	-	-
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	V	-	-	-
___ American Woodcock (N)	C	U	C	-
___ Common Snipe (N)	U	-	U	-
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	R	-	R	-
___ Dunlin	R	-	-	-
___ Sanderling	V	-	V	-
___ Least Sandpiper	R	-	R	-
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	V	-	V	-
GULLS & TERNS				
___ Herring Gull	U	U	C	U
___ Ring-billed Gull	C	R	C	-
___ Bonaparte’s Gull	R	-	R	-
___ Common Tern	R	-	R	-
___ Forster’s Tern	U	-	U	-
___ Caspian Tern	R	V	R	-
___ Black Tern	R	-	-	-
DOVES				
___ Rock Dove (N)	C	C	C	C
___ Mourning Dove (N)	A	A	A	C
CUCKOOS				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo (N)	R	U	U	R
___ Black-billed Cuckoo (N)	R	U	U	R

	S	s	F	W
OWLS				
___ Eastern Screech-Owl (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Great Horned Owl (N)	C	C	C	C
___ Barred Owl (N)	C	C	C	C
___ Barn Owl	-	H	-	-
___ Snowy Owl	-	-	-	L
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	H
GOATSUCKERS				
___ Whip-poor-will (N)	R	V	-	-
___ Common Nighthawk (N)	C	C	U	-
SWIFTS				
___ Chimney Swift (N)	C	C	U	-
HUMMINGBIRDS				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird (N)	C	C	U	-
KINGFISHERS				
___ Belted Kingfisher (N)	U	C	C	U
WOODPECKERS				
___ Northern Flicker (N)	A	A	A	U
___ Pileated Woodpecker (N)	C	C	U	U
___ Red-Bellied Woodpecker (N)	C	C	C	C
___ Red-headed Woodpecker (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	-	U	V
___ Hairy Woodpecker (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Downy Woodpecker (N)	A	A	A	A
FLYCATCHERS				
___ Eastern Kingbird (N)	A	A	U	-
___ Great Crested Flycatcher (N)	C	C	U	-
___ Eastern Phoebe (N)	C	C	C	-
___ Acadian Flycatcher (N)	U	C	C	-
___ Willow Flycatcher (N)	U	R	R	-
___ Alder Flycatcher (N)	R	R	-	-
___ Least Flycatcher	U	U	-	-
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee (N)	C	A	C	-
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	R	-	-	-
LARKS				
___ Horned Lark	H	H	H	H
SWALLOWS				
___ Barn Swallow (N)	A	C	C	-
___ Cliff Swallow	R	-	-	-
___ Tree Swallow (N)	A	A	U	-
___ Bank Swallow	U	-	-	-
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow (N)	U	U	R	-
___ Purple Martin (N)	R	R	-	-
JAYS & CROWS				
___ Blue Jay (N)	A	A	A	A
___ American Crow (N)	A	A	A	A
CHICKADEES & TITMICE				
___ Black-capped Chickadee (N)	A	A	A	A
___ Tufted Titmouse (N)	A	A	A	A
NUTHATCHES				
___ White-breasted Nuthatch (N)	A	A	A	A
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	-	U	U

	<u>S</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
CREEPERS				
___ Brown Creeper (N)	U	R	U	U
WRENS				
___ House Wren (N)	A	A	C	-
___ Winter Wren	U	-	R	-
___ Carolina Wren	R	R	R	R
___ Marsh Wren (N)	R	R	-	-
___ Sedge Wren	V	V	-	-
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS				
___ Northern Mockingbird	V	V	-	-
___ Gray Catbird (N)	A	A	A	-
___ Brown Thrasher (N)	C	C	C	-
THRUSHES				
___ American Robin (N)	A	A	A	U
___ Wood Thrush (N)	U	U	R	-
___ Hermit Thrush	C	-	U	-
___ Swainson’s Thrush	C	-	U	-
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	-	R	-
___ Veery (N)	U	C	-	-
___ Eastern Bluebird (N)	A	C	C	U
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS				
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (N)	C	C	-	-
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	-	U	U
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	-	C	-
WAXWINGS				
___ Cedar Waxwing (N)	C	C	C	U
SHRIKES				
___ Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	H	-
___ Northern Shrike	H	-	H	R
STARLINGS				
___ European Starling (N)	A	A	A	C
VIREOS				
___ Blue-headed Vireo	U	-	R	-
___ White-eyed Vireo (N)	U	C	R	-
___ Yellow-throated Vireo (N)	U	U	U	-
___ Red-eyed Vireo (N)	A	C	C	-
___ Philadelphia Vireo	R	-	V	-
___ Warbling Vireo (N)	A	A	C	-
WOOD WARBLERS				
___ Black-and-white Warbler	C	-	U	-
___ Prothonotary Warbler	V	V	-	-
___ Golden-winged Warbler	R	-	R	-
___ Blue-winged Warbler (N)	C	U	R	-
___ Tennessee Warbler	U	-	R	-
___ Nashville Warbler	C	-	U	-
___ Northern Parula	R	-	-	-
___ Yellow Warbler (N)	A	A	U	-
___ Magnolia Warbler	-	U	-	-
___ Cape May Warbler	U	-	R	-
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	A	R	A	R
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	A	R	U	-
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	U	-	R	-

	S	s	F	W
___ Cerulean Warbler (N)	U	R	-	-
___ Yellow-throated Warbler (N)	R	R	-	-
___ Blackburnian Warbler	U	-	U	-
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler (N)	U	U	U	-
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	C	-	C	-
___ Blackpoll Warbler	U	-	R	-
___ Pine Warbler	V	-	-	-
___ Palm Warbler	C	-	C	-
___ Ovenbird (N)	U	U	R	-
___ Louisiana Waterthrush (N)	R	V	-	-
___ Northern Waterthrush (N)	U	R	-	-
___ Common Yellowthroat (N)	A	A	C	-
___ Yellow-breasted Chat (N)	U	U	-	-
___ Mourning Warbler	R	V	-	-
___ Connecticut Warbler	U	-	-	-
___ Hooded Warbler (N)	R	R	-	-
___ Wilson's Warbler	R	-	R	-
___ Canada Warbler	R	-	V	-
___ American Redstart	C	R	U	-
MEADOWLARK, BLACKBIRDS & ORIOLES				
___ Bobolink	V	H	-	-
___ Eastern Meadowlark (N)	U	U	U	R
___ Red-winged Blackbird (N)	A	A	A	R
___ Rusty Blackbird	R	-	R	-
___ Common Grackle (N)	A	A	A	U
___ Brown-headed Cowbird (N)	A	A	C	-
___ Orchard Oriole (N)	V	V	-	-
___ Baltimore Oriole (N)	C	C	R	-
TANAGERS				
___ Scarlet Tanager (N)	C	C	R	-
___ Summer Tanager	V	-	-	-
GROSBEAKS & FINCHES				
___ Northern Cardinal (N)	A	A	A	C
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak (N)	A	C	U	-
___ Evening Grosbeak	H	-	H	H
___ Indigo Bunting (N)	C	C	U	-
___ Purple Finch	R	-	-	R
___ House Finch (N)	A	A	A	A
___ Common Redpoll	R	-	R	U
___ Pine Siskin	R	-	-	R
___ American Goldfinch (N)	A	A	A	C
___ Dickcissel	L	-	-	-
___ Eastern Towhee (N)	A	A	C	-
SPARROWS & JUNCOS				
___ House Sparrow (N)	A	A	A	A
___ Savannah Sparrow	V	-	-	-
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	V	-	-	-
___ Henslow's Sparrow (N)	V	V	-	-
___ Vesper Sparrow (N)	U	U	-	-
___ Dark-eyed Junco	A	-	A	A
___ American Tree Sparrow	U	-	C	A
___ Chipping Sparrow (N)	A	C	C	-

	S	s	F	W
___ Field Sparrow (N)	A	A	R	-
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C	-	C	C
___ White-throated Sparrow	A	U	C	U
___ Fox Sparrow	C	-	R	-
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	V	-
___ Swamp Sparrow (N)	U	C	U	-
___ Song Sparrow (N)	A	A	A	C
BUNTING				
___ Snow Bunting	-	-	-	U

DEFINITION OF SYMBOLS

- A = Abundant - Numerous, can usually be seen.
- C = Common - Can be seen in the proper habitat.
- U = Uncommon - Present, but not in great numbers.
- R = Rare - Only a few sightings each year.
- V = Very rare - Not seen most years.
- H = Historical - Seen sometime within the park's history (1977 to present).
- L = Local - Presently seen in nearby locales, but not recorded in the park.
- = No sightings within park.
- X = Accidental-Species out of range.
- (N) = Nests within or near the park.
- S = March-May
- s = June-August
- F = September-November
- W = December-February

FIELD NOTES

DATE: _____ TIME: _____

SPECIES: _____ INDIVIDUALS: _____

POTATO CREEK STATE PARK
P.O. Box 908
25601 State Road 4
North Liberty, IN 46554
(219) 656-8186

Take a stroll down any of the park's trails and you will discover a variety of diverse habitats: upland forests, wetlands, old fields and prairies. Each habitat supports a wide array of bird species. Currently, the checklist boasts over 200 species, with approximately 70 of them nesting within or near the park. Other species take advantage of the park's diversity as a winter home (e.g. Dark-eyed Junco) or as a migration stop-over site (e.g. waterfowl & warblers).

In 1977, much of the park land (3,840 acres) consisted of old farm fields. Today this agricultural land can be found in various stages of ecological succession. Among the shrubs and small trees, Bluebirds and Goldfinch flit about on summer breezes. Also, be alert for Eastern Towhees, Field Sparrows, Bobwhite Quail and Brown Thrashers lurking among the shrubs and remnant fencerows.

During the Summer, listen for the calls of the Veery, Scarlet Tanager and Vireo filling the air of the mixed deciduous forests. Flashes of green, yellow, orange and red may help you identify the Flycatchers, Orioles, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks nesting in the trees. All are known to frequent these upland forests. Wood warblers and thrushes also use these areas as they continue their migrational journeys.

In addition to the 327 acre Worster Lake, a variety of wetlands have been restored, creating prime nesting sites for not only Wood Ducks and Mallards, but also songbirds like the Common Yellowthroat and Red-winged Blackbird. Great Blue Herons are common residents along the lake shore while Downy Woodpeckers, Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows are likely inhabitants of the snags found in and along the lake. Observing these wet areas during the Spring and Fall will ensure glimpses of migrating loons, cormorants, grebes, ducks, geese and teal.

Park prairie restorations should aid in the return of such grassland species as the Bobolink and Savannah, Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows.

This checklist is a compilation of data accumulated in Potato Creek State Park since 1977. It tells what birds are likely to be seen during a particular time of the year, but there are exceptions. Please report any unusual sightings to the Nature Center.

The Birds of
Potato Creek
State Park



Prairies



Upland Woods



Wetlands



Old Fields